

REMARKS

The Office Action of July 18, 2002, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 8, 10, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Japanese reference 4-50297 to Yoshikawa, et al.

Claims 11, 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Yoshikawa, et al. in view of the patent to Lane.

Claims 9, 12-17 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Yoshikawa, et al. in view of the patent to Loiodice.

At the outset applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for taking the time to meet with applicant's representative and for the constructive comments made during the meeting.

Pursuant to the suggestions made by the Examiner during the interview applicant has amended independent claim 8 to recite that the first and second guides are discontinuously connected.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

As discussed during the interview, none of Yoshikawa, et al., Lane and Loiodice teach or suggest guides that are discontinuously connected as recited in the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 8, 10, 18 and 20 under 35 USC 102(b) over Yoshikawa, et al., the rejection of claims 11, 12 and 15 under 35 USC 103(a) over Yoshikawa, et al. in view of Lane and the rejection of

claims 9, 12-17 and 19 under 35 USC 103(a) over Yoshikawa, et al. in view of Loiodice, are overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Klaus P. Stoffel', is written over a horizontal line.

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In the Claims:



8. (Amended) A cable elevator, comprising: first parallel guides arranged in a first vertical plane; second parallel guides separate from the first parallel guides and arranged in a second vertical plane parallel to and spaced from the first vertical plane, the first and the second guides being discontinuously connected; a cage movably arranged on the first guides; a counterweight movably arranged on the second guides; an engine mount fastened to the first guides and to the second guides; and a drive engine arranged on the engine mount.

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